



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Case No. 99,294)

PATENT

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In re Application of:

Brent Townshend

Group Art Unit: 2641

Serial No.: 09/311,617

Filed: May 13, 1999

Examiner: R. Dorvil

For: Automated Language Assessment  
Using Speech Recognition Modeling

RECEIVED

MAR 21 2002

Technology Center 2400

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed May 8, 2001, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claim 9.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 14, 16 and 17 as follows:

1. (Amended) A system for measuring an ability of a subject, comprising:

a first set of task items that require the subject to provide one or more spoken responses;

a speech recognition system coupled to receive the spoken response and to provide an estimate of the spoken response, the speech recognition system having an associated accuracy;

a scoring device, the scoring device being operable to convert the estimate into an item score; and